

Mme. Bernice de Pasquali, an American Opera Singer, Who Outshone Foreign Stars In Own Land and Language

From Our New York Dramatic Correspondent.

TO so great a height has grown the demand for foreign born or foreign trained opera and concert singers that perhaps our American born vocalists may be forgiven for neglecting the instruction of their own country. However, native American singers are now commanding prominence hitherto unattained. The keenest critics and the most intelligent audiences find their art of undoubted excellence.

While it is of particular note for an American to meet with national approbation in grand opera in this country, how much more consideration must be given an American born, an American trained diva who has toured foreign lands purely as an American opera singer and who has scored distinct success in such a daring venture!

Challenged Europeans as an American.

That is what Mme. Bernice James de Pasquali of the famous Metropolitan Opera House company of New York has done, and the verdict of the critics and audiences of the leading musical centers of Italy, France and Germany is of a nature of which the leading native artists of those countries might well be proud. Mme. de Pasquali dared the fates when she refused during her foreign tours to announce herself as a product of the continental school of opera and boldly impressed on the opera going public of European countries that she and her art were solely American. That she overcame the European prejudice against American singers redounds to the quality of her courage as well as to her operatic artistry.

Mme. de Pasquali's success in this country following her European tour was to be expected, and her reception by the fashionable and critical audiences at the Metropolitan Opera House this season have evidenced the lofty degree of her accomplishments.

Sings Forty Important Roles.

Mme. de Pasquali sings no less than forty important coloratura and lyric roles and became a favorite soprano at the Metropolitan Opera House this season in her first year in grand opera in her native country.

She has been on the professional stage since she was five years old. She began studying singing in the National Conservatory of New York at the age of fifteen and a year later was appointed an instructor. This early proficiency was in the nature of a prophecy that she would outshine foreign stars in their own language and their own country—which she did, notably in Italy.

The career of Mme. de Pasquali in foreign lands is, in fact, a story in itself. She has appeared in classic roles not only in France, Italy and Germany, but in England, Mexico, Greece, Cuba and various sections of South Africa. The Havana Spanish Post of Jan. 6 a year ago said: "In 'La Bohème' Tetrazzini as Mimì, the idol of London, was a failure as compared to Mme. de Pasquali, who scored decidedly—yes, brilliantly—as Mimì. And Mme. de Pasquali had been practically unheralded before her arrival."

Prefers the Americans.

But Mme. de Pasquali prefers American audiences to all others, probably because she is thoroughly American herself, as the fact that she is a daughter of the American Revolution testifies. Her two great-grandfathers fought in the Revolutionary war—Sergeant Samuel Lovell and Daniel

Dill. Sergeant Lovell was a member of the famous English family of that name and as leading tenor in the old Park Street church in Boston sang for General Lafayette when he visited this country after the Revolution. During her extensive tours abroad Mme. de Pasquali sang in many cities

Her American debut occurred in January at the Metropolitan Opera House as Violetta in "La Traviata." It was in this interesting role that Melba, Tetrazzini and Patti made their New York debuts. Probably Mme. de Pasquali's greatest successes have been scored in the leading soprano roles in

"The public desires more of an actress than a singer in opera now. The old school of opera, 'Bel Canto,' is waning into desuetude. Also the orchestra is given too much prominence today, whereas it should be purely secondary to the singers. Most of the modern composers favor the orchestra. In many cases, I regret to say, the singers are made secondary to the orchestra."

Mme. de Pasquali is an intimate friend of Pietro Mascagni, the Italian composer, and he dedicated to her his opera "Le Maschere." A native of Boston, she hopes to spend the remainder of her operatic career in this country.

MME. BERNICE DE PASQUALI IN VARIOUS GRAND OPERA ROLES



AS ROSINA IN "THE BARBER OF SEVILLE"

AS VIOLETTA IN "LA TRAVIATA"

AS NORINA IN "DON PASQUALE"

AS NORINA IN "DON PASQUALE"

of Cape Colony and recalls interesting experiences in Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Kimberley and in Natal. She visited Mombasa, the ancient Portuguese settlement on the African coast, from which ex-President Roosevelt made his start by train into the interior on his hunting trip. She says, "I don't blame Roosevelt for wanting to explore the beautiful African country."

Her American Debut. Mme. de Pasquali sang before the Prince of Wales in Quebec last August.

"La Traviata," "Lakme," "Hamlet," "Sonambula," "Puritani," "Lucia di Lammermoor," "Rigoletto" and "Don Pasquale."

"I am very fond of singing Bellini's 'Puritani,'" says Mme. de Pasquali, "because of its beautiful, old fashioned music. It is full of the melody of 'Bel Canto,' but I seldom get a chance to sing it because few tenors can master the role of Arturo."

Her foreign name occurs through her marriage to a well known Italian opera singer and impresario.

Frederick Tringali

Interesting Story of "The Man From Home."

The story of the new Booth Tarkington-Harry Leon Wilson play, "The Man From Home," is a distinctly and peculiarly attractive one, dealing, as it does, with a curious admixture of American planness and European high life.

The play has had a long run at the Astor theater, New York. The story runs briefly thus:

Horace and Ethel Simpson, natives of Kokomo, Ind., having been left orphans and with a comparatively large sum of money at their individual commands, decide to live in Europe. There they are taken up by a certain European class who use them for their own ends, flatter them and otherwise cater to their vanity. Both these young people become anglomaniacs of the most impossible order. Their affairs are left in the hands of Daniel Voorhees Pike, a lawyer of Kokomo. He hears that Ethel has decided to marry the Hon. Almeric St. Aubyn, the eldest son of an impecunious British peer, the Earl of Hawcastle, and immediately takes ship to Italy, where the young people are living, with the idea of looking into the matter. He arrives at a crucial moment. Ethel has promised to marry the young man, and the father demands the settlement of three-quarters of a million in payment for the "honeymoon" his son is about to do. He believes the young man loves her for herself. It becomes Pike's business to show the precious pair up in their true colors, and this he proceeds to do.

In the piece and the action thereof the authors have interwoven some odd characters, such as a Russian nobleman, an escaped Russian convict, a trippery old lady of title and the usual local adherents of hotel life upon the continent. The fate of the Russian convict who has escaped from Siberia turns out to be intimately connected with the destinies of both the Russian nobleman and the old lady of title, while the earl himself turns out to have been directly responsible for the fate to which the convict has been sentenced. The details of the manner in which Pike brings these hitherto unknown incidents to light and forces them into their true position in the lives of those most concerned form the play and in the end, of course, open the eyes of the two foolish young Americans to the follies they have been perpetrating by expatriating themselves. They learn very readily that it is only the money that has won them the acquaintance of these doubtful aristocrats and that the friendship of plain Americans is sufficient for any motive they may have in the world.

GERMAN THEATERS.

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New York's Big Tenpin Tournament. National Bowling Event to Start May 24. Record Breaking Entry Received

DEVOTEES of the bowling game throughout the country are deeply interested in the plans of the coming National Bowling association tournament which is to be held in Madison Square Garden, New York, from May 24 to June 12. As the Olympic games are to the

grand interior, and an entirely new system had to be devised, resulting in the adoption of what is termed the aerial system.

The plan comprises twenty-four double faced boards suspended by steel cables from the ornamental roof girders, directly from the line of the longi-

clothes that was so loud one could almost hear it, but his chief ornamentation was in the way of diamonds that flashed from his fingers and from his scarf. Langford was unadorned at that time.

"Don't you ever wear diamonds, Mistah Langford?" maliciously asked Jack.

Langford's reply was to flash a costly beauty that was reposing in his vest. It didn't altogether save the day, as Johnson, glancing at the ring, said, "Ah mean real ones, Mistah Langford." And this is why he is thirsting for the blood of the man who beat Tommy Burns. Just as the pair were matched Langford said:

"When Ah get a chance at that Johnson all Ah got to do is to think of diamonds and he will get some fighting. Ah tell you. And if Ah over get him down on the floor that's what Ah'm goin' to say to him."

ADVICE TO AMATEUR PLAY-WRIGHTS.

The managers are being daily flooded with plays written in many cases by people who have absolutely no conception of what constitutes a play, either in the method of construction or subject matter. Taking the case of Mr. Henry B. Harris as an example, the records of his office show that the average number of plays sent to him weekly is twenty-eight. Figuring that at least two hours would be required for each play, he would have to devote eight hours daily to their reading, which would leave him very little time to attend to his other many duties.

It has been suggested that if the young playwright would first send a short, concise story of his play, embodying the big situations, the manager, if interested, would then communicate with the author, who would send on a complete manuscript and thereby enhance his chance of getting a hearing. It has been estimated that 10,000 plays a year are being written by Americans, and less than 4 per cent are ever produced.

MARATHON RACE IN EGYPT.

The worldwide popularity of long distance foot racing under the style of Marathon runs is attested by a contest over a desert course from Cairo to Helouan, in Egypt, with forty-three starters, representing about all the nations that the cosmopolitan population of Cairo includes.

The winner turned up in an Egyptian soldier, Brithmar Brithm of the Fourth Infantry battalion, Egyptian army, who, finishing quite fresh, drew himself up after passing the tape and saluted the judges in military style, winning great applause from the British and Egyptian soldiers present in the crowd of 8,000 spectators.

LANGFORD AND JOHNSON.

It appears that after their first fight, in which Sam made a good showing, considering his weight, even if he did lose the decision, the two pugilists were thrown into the same company one evening, both endeavoring to be pleasant to the same dusky belle.

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judicial center of the Garden, about twenty-five feet above and extending across the twenty-four alleys a distance of 150 feet and, as scoring will be done on both sides, practically making a 300 foot score board. A substantial footpath for the two dozen scorers that the system will require will necessarily be a part of this structure.

The method of scoring will be with rubber stamp figures, two by three inches in size, on immense paper score sheets, three and a half by nine feet for each five man team. But ten characters will be required for scoring, the figures 1 to 9. Figure 1 will make either strike, spare or miss mark, and figure 0 will indicate a split. The distinct advantages of this system are extreme simplicity, legibility, nearness of the score boards to the players and spectators and the doing away with the cumbersome multiplicity of pieces needed to operate other systems which have been tried and found wanting on account of their complex nature.

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The probable number of two man teams is placed at 1,700 and there will be more than 3,500 individual contestants. This will bring the total number of men competing up to the largest figure that has ever been attained in a bowling tournament.

A team of so called "dubs" has every chance in the world in the coming tournament. Moreover, an unpretentious bowler has every opportunity to win the individual championship. This may be considered a remarkable statement, but past records have proved it to be true. Nor has this proof been shown in national tournaments alone, but in many other competitions. A little bit of luck goes a long way in bowling, and the game of tenpins is such that any man has an equal chance in a series of three games with the most accomplished pin knight.

In the N. B. A. tournament in Rochester last year John McGuirk and John Grady of Paterson, N. J., rolled a world's two man record and won the championship. Neither man is an expert. In fact, they were both scouting around for partners and teamed up out of sympathy. Grady with his sixty years and McGuirk with his twenty-three forming the "youth and old age" duo. And the result was 1,318, a record that still stands in this kind of tournament.

The so called "dub" has every chance, and it is safe to predict that the team that wins the guaranteed first prize of \$1,000 will be a team that will not be made up of stars.

An important step has been accomplished in the obtaining of special railroad rates for the tournament, the visiting bowlers being able to go to New York at a cost of one fare and being effective on all railroads.

Scoring systems used at previous national tournaments have been inadequate and unsatisfactory, and as bowling "fans" and spectators are as much interested in the details of a bowling score while the game is progressing as they are in the game itself the matter of a practicable scoring system caused serious consideration. The oval construction of the Garden precluded the use of the usual score boards at the pit end of the alleys without sacrificing a very large block of seats and marred the architectural beauty of the

athletes of the world in arousing interest in athletics, so are the annual championships of the different bowling associations east and west in stimulating interest in one of the greatest of indoor sports.

In the course of three short years wonders have been accomplished in the bowling game. It has been shown in the remarkable advancement of the American bowling congress in the middle west and the National Bowling association in the east.

The conditions governing the coming tournament not only warrant the guarantee of \$1,000 to the winning five man team and a prize list totaling \$50,000, but teams from Germany and California will roll on the same alleys in the same events, bringing together teams from different nations and from sections 6,000 miles apart.

Recently President Cordes and Secretary Wyman of the United Tournament company, under whose auspices the coming tournament is to be held, declared that their estimate of 500 five man teams early in the year was too low and that matters have been so arranged that 700 can easily be accommodated.

The states which will send five man teams and the number from each are as follows: New York state (exclusive of Greater New York), 100; New Jersey, 100; Pennsylvania, 30; Delaware, 10; Maryland, 25; Ohio, 20; Illinois, 12; Connecticut, 20; Missouri, 6; Canada, 10; Indiana, 5; Kentucky, 5; Wisconsin, 5; Michigan, 5; Vermont, 5; Minnesota, 3; Massachusetts, 2; Rhode Island, 3; District of Columbia, 3; Iowa, 2; southern states, 10. New York city is expected to enter nearly enough to complete a list of 700.

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PROSPERITY THREATENS BASEBALL.

PROSPERITY threatens to hurt baseball, as it has several other important sports, although in a different manner. In the turf and the fight game, which are examples, there was so much money for the promoters in the palmy days of those pastimes that there grew to be too many promoters, and the result was a public outcry against too much of both, or each, as the case may be. But there was not too much prosperity for the actual fighters or horse owners to keep them near the feed store.

In baseball the fact it is not an illegal sport anywhere has enabled the farsighted men who originated the organized form of the sport to regulate for themselves the number of promoters within any given radius. Thereby the danger of overabundance of the public's appetite has been lessened. But things have come to a pass where the actual performers share in baseball's prosperity to such an extent that it is hard to keep them in the game.

There is no disposition to find fault on that score. None begrudges the former manager of the Chicago Americans, Fielder Jones, the possession of the coin which enables him to become a timber magnate. Catcher John Kling's friends all are glad he has the comfortable fortune of \$30,000 in tangible form. These men have made their all out of baseball with the help of frugal dispositions and shrewd business sense in the matter of investment. Second Baseman John Evers of the Chicago Nationals has invested in a shoe store with such success that he is able to lay off for half a season without feeling a pinch in the pocket. Mike Donlin of the New York Nationals has saved enough to permit him to retire from baseball for one season without injuring his bank account. After his theatrical tour is over Donlin intends to tour Europe.

Baseball patrons, not octogenarians at that, can remember when the major league ball player could not or did not save enough out of a season's salary to carry him over from October to

April and never had a chance to lay off unless hurt or released. The club owner knew in those days what players would retire from his team. It was up to him to decide. At the present rate it may be necessary for the national commission to raise the thirty-five limit on the number of players a club can reserve from season to season so as to provide for the loss of stars by the new process.

NATIONAL REGATTA CHANGES.

Course to Be Shortened a Quarter of a Mile.

The National Association of Amateur Oarsmen through its executive committee has changed the distance of championship races to one mile and a quarter straightaway. Heretofore the distance was one mile and a half, but it has been the opinion in recent years among boat club men that this was a little too long and should be cut down to Harlem regatta, American association and practically the Henley distance. The national body, therefore, has fallen in line with general sentiment.

Another step taken by the national committee is also drastic, that of eliminating pair oared races from the card. Pair oared rowing is recognized as requiring more skill than any other branch of rowing, and everything possible has been done to encourage it by men at the head of the sport offering special prizes at the provincial regattas.

But the young men belonging to clubs who have only the late afternoons and Sundays for training simply would not exert themselves to the extent of acquiring pair oared skill, and pair oared races have been farcical as a rule, in recent years. As substitutes the national committee has added to this year's Detroit card senior single quarter mile dash and senior quadruple scull shell events. The former will give scullers like Fuessell and others a chance, as they can go like the wind for this distance, while completely exhausted with fast going for a mile or more. Senior quadruple sculls is an innovation that will meet with approval and is an entering wedge which means that very soon octuple sculls will be a championship event.

THE ESSENCE OF BASEBALL.

"Is baseball faster than it used to be? Humpf! It's a foolish pastime to draw comparisons. Take it from me that there's one great thing about baseball, which is just as good today as it was yesterday and which will be just as good tomorrow as it is today, and that is, with the bases filled, to get just one good solid 'swat' squarely on the trade mark of the ball and watch it sail over the center fielder's head while you and the other fellows are whooping it up around the bases. When you've done that you don't give a thinker's darn what baseball was last week and what it is likely to be next week."

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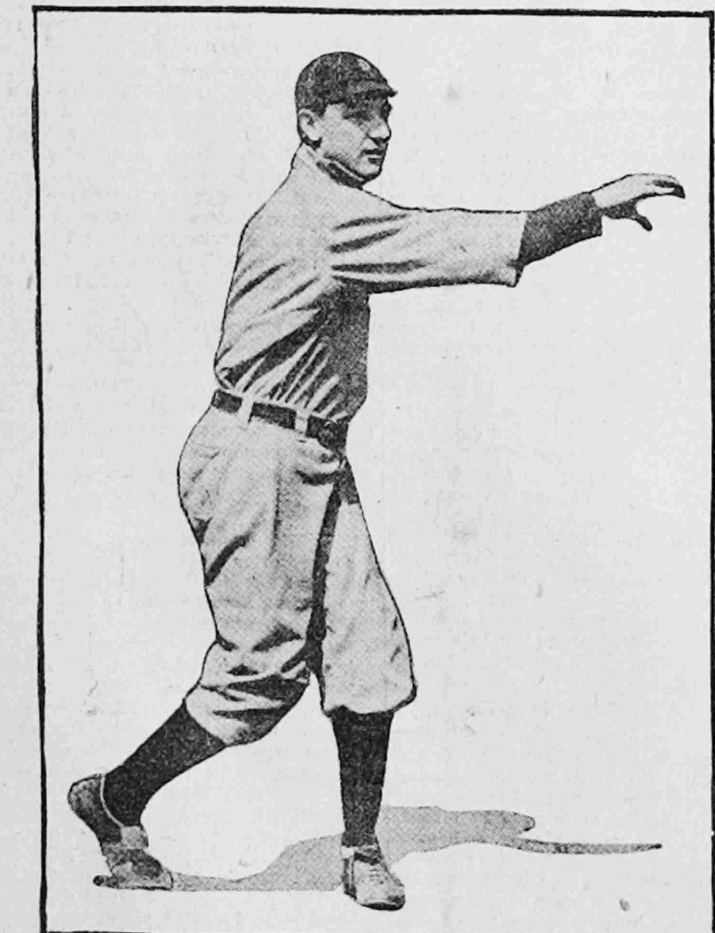
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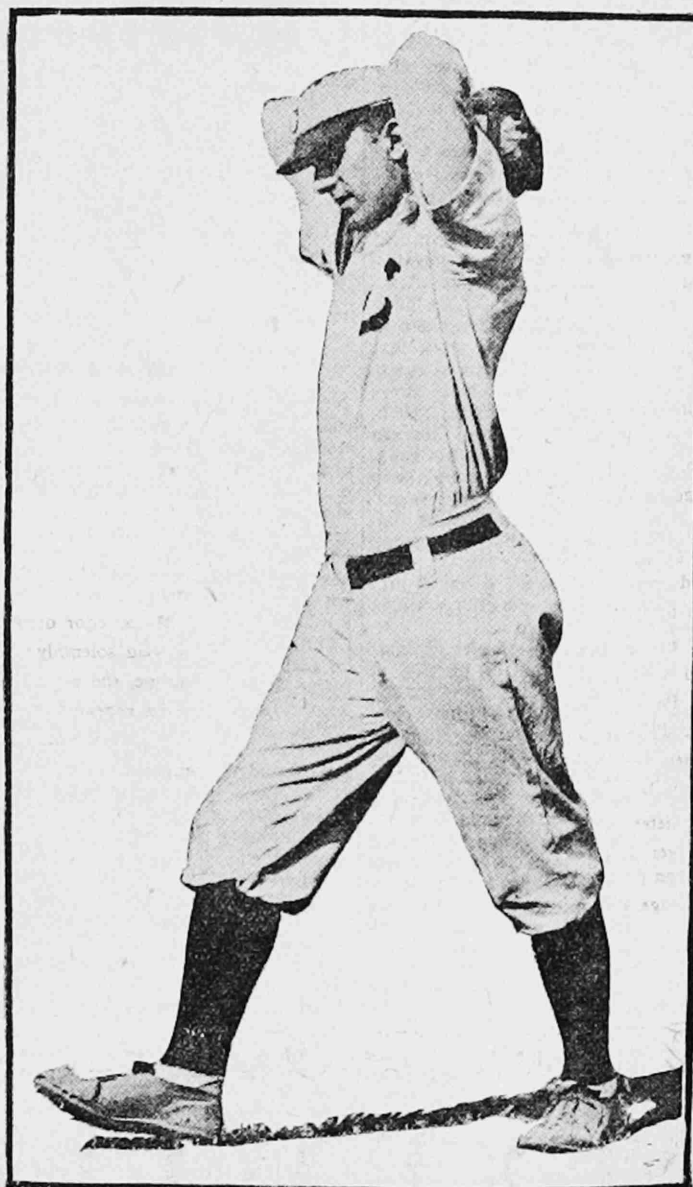
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PITCHER "WILD BILL" DONOVAN, DETROIT AMERICANS' LEADING SLAB ARTIST.



PITCHER EDWARD REULBACH OF THE CHICAGO NATIONALS